

APPENDIX 11A

Kendrick Park, abounding in old town names

out, "was all very democratic," commented one Undas official. "Elliot Richardson, and the rest of them, were just like everybody else."

The mass confusion was seen by all participants from their own viewpoints. At the Record, a corner of the front page of the Sunday paper was being held open for the address of Gen. Elliott Richardson. As originally planned, Richardson was to have begun speaking at about 11. By pushing hard, we could have covered the speech without too much difficulty.

Photographs were a problem. Against all her professional instincts, Price Whaling, Record photographer Karen Wagner, had sternly advised to take Polaroid pictures since there was no time to process film iron what she regarded as "a real" camera.

Calling in early Saturday to report the change plans, she also informed the publisher that she had just gone through the agony of shooting photographs for Ansel Adams, an honorary degree recipient with the office Polaroid. Events were taking a decidedly unpredictable turn.

They never seem a crowd turn ugly so fast," observed an Undas executive. "I believe the parents was the parents' parents being landed out past them, were landing in the balcony. Another was that there just wasn't room for everybody. Some families, having slogged through the mud all over

bizarre treasure hunt, located Boyden Hall, starting line was further delayed until noon. Reporters from all over the country were covering the semi-conscious campers while slipping away from them.

Many papers were covering commerce mainly because a press conference with Richardson had been scheduled for after the contestants. This was the first thing to go, since Richardson had a plane to catch. The probing questions remained tucked in pockets. No honored guest was heard to curse, aloud.

On Monday, several persons commented on the persevering good humor of Mayor David Power of the Newman Center, whose wheelchair kept getting stuck in the mud. He was "on leave" from his bed at Providence Hospital to receive an honorary degree. Attempts to move him gingerly turned into fervent hope that he could be carried from place to place in one piece.

At noon, when the procession began, a number of reporters realized that their half-pint pens did not contain indelible ink. Notes were washed away. Didn't know how Elliott Richardson's

cont.

County Commission on a petition that "the second of a three part series detailing the history of a triangular island bounded by North and East Pleasant and Triangle Streets, and the house of Horace Anderson and the highway near the house of Morton Miss Martha F. Fowler." In 1895 he married Miss Martha F. Fowler. His grandfather, Harry was drafted as a catcher for the Washington Athletics in 1910, thus becoming America's only professional baseball player.

activity occurred on the "island," including the raising of one home, removal of another and the construction of two dwellings.

In 1910, the First Baptist Church purchased the lot of Hammitt Wedge. The same year H.D. Fearing who lived at the corner of Fearing and North Pleasant, offered his home to the Baptist Church to be placed on their new lot, and to be used as a parsonage. If the church would remove it and do grading around his new dwelling.

Meanwhile, several houses were built on the island, including the home of Dwight W. Palmer, who built his house around 1895. During this period Kendrick was instrumental in bringing gas, electricity, and water to the west of the "island." (See present map.) The commission, met at the Fowlers House to view the premises and to hear the property owners involved.

The commission decided to build the new road (North Pleasant Street) and awarded the following land to the property owners: Harvey Evans, Enoch Wyllie, the history of a 3.3 acre site bounded by North and East Pleasant and Triangle Streets which will eventually be called Kendrick Park.

The park was chartered by George S. Kendrick, who set up a trust fund intended to purchase houses on the "island" as they came up for sale. Only three houses remain that don't belong to the trust, although there is speculation that the trust is defrauded and may not have the funds to complete the project. See Amherst Record June 12.

In a masters thesis for the University School of Landscape Architecture, Patricia Bischoff, '72, Dana Street, has outlined in detail the history of the site, which has undergone many dramatic changes over the years. The Bischoff thesis outlines the history of the site chronologically.

1772-1822, Triangle Street was called "Country Road" at the Hove and East Pleasant was referred to as the "West Highway." North Pleasant Street was not yet built.

A minor historical footnote occurred on the island when General Benjamin Lincoln from Springfield spent the night on the "island" after dispersing Daniel Shays' men in Peterborough, during the time of the famous Shays' rebellion.

After 1800 several houses were built facing the "West Highway" (East Pleasant Street). All properties were bounded by a farm on the west owned by Dr. Rufus Cowles. His name is still visible on Cowles Lane (formerly Main Street).

The southern part of the "island"

belonged to a physician, Isaac Guernsey Culler who sold the property in 1816 to Ethan Whiting and in 1826 another parcel to Abram Howe.

Howe later became the proprietor for 22 years of the Amherst House.

1835-1837, Tan Brook received its name when two tanners, French Whiting and Fredell Bullock, lived on the "island." Bullocks lived in a magnificent Colonial saltbox that was torn down in 1879.

1855-1857, Tan Brook received its name when two tanners, French Whiting and Fredell Bullock, lived on the "island." Bullocks lived in a magnificent Colonial saltbox that was torn down in 1879.

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1879-1880, when two tanners, French Whiting and Fredell Bullock, lived on the "island." Bullocks lived in a magnificent Colonial saltbox that was torn down in 1879.

activity occurred on the "island," including the raising of one home, removal of another and the construction of two dwellings.

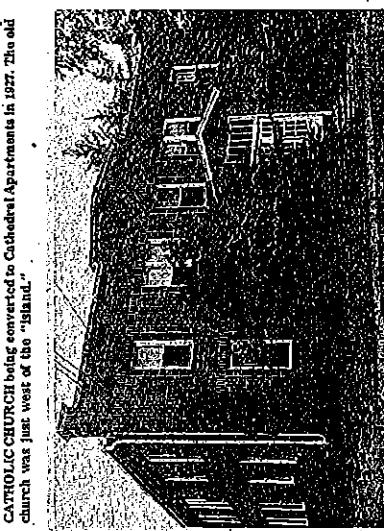
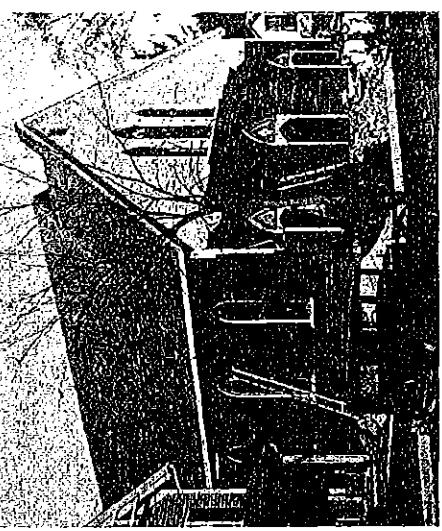
By 1900 there were ten houses on the "island." One of the houses belonged to John P. Henry's grandfather, Harry, who lived at the corner of Fearing and North Pleasant, offered his home to the Amherst Athletes in 1910, thus becoming Amherst's only professional baseball player.

John P. Henry's grandfather, Harry, (continued on page 3)

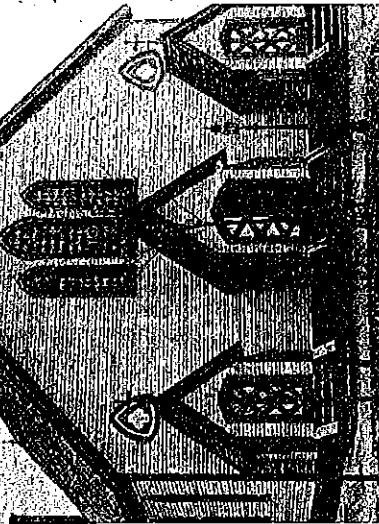
1895-1897, It was during this time that

Kendrick conceived of the idea of Kendrick Park. From 1917 until 1928, he served as President of the Amherst

Athletes, and his wife lived at 5 School St. (continued on page 3)



CATHEDRAL CHURCH being converted to Apartments in 1974. The apartments are not included in the proposed Kendrick Park since they are off the "island" and on the west side of North Pleasant Street.



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH about 1850, before any changes were made.

do the water
sport for the
Mass. Chanc.
to Arbitrate

Rich history of 'Island' shown

(Continued from page 1)

Savings Bank.

At or 1910 Tan Brook, no longer meandered across the "island." The town hired engineer Henry Ulford to place the brook into a stone tunnel from Pleasant Street.

During this time the final house was built on the "island" in 1915. The house was built as a home for himself by Allen Terrey, Edwin D. Brewster, and his father, built, in addition to his "island," on this, "it would be created on the land for a solid bird's nest." His sister, Davenport Inn (now Zeta Nu Fraternity), the Kendick house (now the Fischer home) or Seelye Street. In addition to many houses on Lincoln Avenue.

Sel. Nancy Cooper, who died at the age of 85, a childless widow. Her sister, Jenny, whose will was identical to her brother's, lived on until 1957. Nevertheless, the execution of the trust began as early as 1957, and there is some speculation that it began as early as 1951.

To date, the trust has acquired all except three of the houses of the original 11 on the "island." In her thesis, Bischoff strongly recommends that none of the three remaining houses be destroyed. She points out specifically that the Dudley house at 25 North Pleasant has both historical and aesthetic significance.

In her thesis, Bischoff strongly recommends that none of the three remaining houses be destroyed. She also recommends that the three stellar houses, all made from "native stones, be incorporated into the park design where possible rock stands and resting spots could be constructed in the basement of the Sam Hyde house.

Thomas Quarles, of the trust department of First National Savings Bank of Amherst, which in charge of the Kendick Trust, was mildly skeptical about moving the existing houses. He tried to two years ago before the Sam Hyde house (285 North Pleasant Street) was razed," he said.

According to Quarles the trust consulted the Amherst Historical Society and was told by them that the house was of no historical importance to the town. A party of Hadley was interested in the place," Quarles said.

However, a firm in Springfield, which

specializes in moving houses, told the trust department that removal of the house anywhere outside the immediate area would be economically unfeasible. In her thesis, Bischoff recommends that the houses be moved to suitable lots (if they are available) on Lincoln Avenue, Northampton Road and East Pleasant Street.

In another recommendation, Bischoff suggests that the Tan Brook be "reopened" and that a small flood storage pond be created on the land for protection. In addition to the history of the site, the Bischoff thesis also analyzes the vegetation, traffic, and utilities on the present site and makes extensive recommendations for the actual land-scaping of the eventual park.

The next article on the park will present official reaction to the idea, how it implements the SCOG report, and a detailed description of Bischoff's recommendations.

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In a detailed study of the Brook course done by Town Engineer, Sam Hyde, entitled, "Tan Brook, A Case Hydrologic Study of an Urban Watercourse," much the same recommendations are made.

Smith says, "A conservation area

such as this in close proximity to the

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Brookline), all documents, records and correspondence is presumed to be open for public scrutiny under the terms of the new bill. Exemptions must be proved by the person holding the material.

THE LEGISLATION defines public records as "all books, papers, photographs, recorded tapes, financial statements, statistical tabulations, or other documentary materials or data, regardless of physical form, or characteristics," made or received by any officer or employee of a state or county or municipal body. Courts and the legislature are excepted.

Also included are records of "any authority of the General court to serve a public purpose." This would include such bodies as the UMass trustees. One town official who is familiar with

In a special meeting Friday afternoon the Recreation Commission voted unanimously to accept the new \$50,000 Mill River Reservation Area from the Girls Sportsmanship Award to Sesau Howard.

Final acceptance of the project is contingent upon the Fuller Construction Corporation's completion of a small number of items which remain to be corrected or completed.

The opening of the area will be

done a few weeks ago because the town

had not applied for a special sewer

enclosure permit from the State Division

of Water Pollution Control.

A special 90-day sewer permit was issued by the Division two weeks ago.

(continued on page 3)

NOT DOG ON SIDEWALK pants it out on Wednesday as temperatures soared into the 90's. No Englishmen were about as the noonday sun baked the down-

town area.

—Dana T. Williams

Editor's Note.—The following

article is the third and final part of a series on the Kendrick Trust, established in 1920 to seek the purchase of all the homes on an "island" created by the intersection of North and East Pleasant and Triangle Streets. An editorial on this subject is included on page 2.

By ROBERT BLOSSOM A generous bequest in the will of George S. Kendrick, left when he died in 1930, proposes to create a 3.3 acre park just north of the center of town along North Pleasant Street.

What Kendrick could not foresee, at the time of his death, was the incredible growth of the town and the complexities of the history of the site. In 1974, over if his dream would present in 1920, even if the trust is still capable of buying the three dwellings on the site that still remain in private ownership, which is open to speculation.

Patricia Bischoff, 22, Dana St., has recently analyzed some of the complexities in a masters thesis for the Mass. School of Landscape Architecture.

AFTER EXTENSIVE TREATMENT of the history of the site, which is bounded by North and East Pleasant and Triangle Streets, Bischoff looks to the present problems on the site and presents detailed plans of what she, as a landscape architect, thinks would be the best way to develop the park.

ANYWAY, the most intriguing suggestions she makes are:

—Two ponds, one flowing down into the other, created by uncovering the conduit that presently carries the Tan Brook under the site.

—Underground utilities on and around the site.

—Use of gas lighting within the park to provide a nineteenth century atmosphere.

Town officials sympathetic to 'Kendrick Park'

That the planning board not extend its boundaries beyond its present areas around the site

—That cellar holes be left exposed as miniature parks within the park.

—Lower the elevation of the park inferior creating concave contours that would provide a sense of enclosure and privacy.

Bank officials at the First National Bank of Amherst, curator of the trust, have expressed concern that the trust is deteriorating and may not have enough money to meet its obligations.

Lower the elevation of the park inferior creating concave contours that would provide a sense of enclosure and privacy.

TOWN OFFICIALS all agree that a failure of the trust to complete the project would be a tragic tragedy.

"It looks like to see the trust at an impasse right now," says Alton Torrey, town manager. "I'd like to see the trust able to pass those parcels now on to the town for tax relief, with the agreement that the town would maintain the area in a park-like manner."

"Secondly," Torrey adds, "I'd like to see some action on the purchase of the remaining three houses with life tenancy agreements, or whatever."

"I feel strongly that town meeting would agree to aid in purchases if the trust funds are insufficient to complete the project," he added.

"Furthermore, I think it would be great to see the trust use some of the money to develop the site through a master plan and promote some planting

there was to be a rose garden planted here by Mr. Whitcomb.

Charles Ward, owner of 297 North Pleasant St., says, "I've owned my house since 1941. We haven't heard

(continued on page 2)

Pat Bischoff's sojourn ended mystery of 'island'



DANA T. WILLIAMS

PATRICIA BISCHOFF

Williams is married to David Bischoff, who is in the Foreign office at UMass. She is the mother of three children: Cindy, 19, at the University of Maine; Steve, 16, at Williston Academy, and Irene, 11, a student at Wildwood.

The Bischoffs have lived in Amherst since 1957.

much about the planned park until fairly recently," Ward said. That the trust has never approached him about buying his home.

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Engineer James Smith, Bischoff also makes several specific suggestions in her thesis about traffic in the area.

Both Planning Board Chairman Alice Epstein and Town Planner James Cope express strong support of the Bischoff plan for the area, at least in principle.

"Her thesis is really a refinement of the SCOG report," says Epstein. "The planning board will certainly consider seriously in any future planning for the results and recommendations

both Cope and Epstein alluded to the SCOG recommendation that the area between the university and the center of town be studied intensely before future development.

Patricia Bischoff, 44, of 72 Dana Street, decided she would return to school eight years ago.

"I thought I would only take a couple of courses," she said, "I had no idea that I would get involved. I just thought it would be good fun to fill my time."

On Saturday, June 1, Mrs. Bischoff graduated with her M.L.A. from the UMass school of Landscape Architecture.

Her thesis was a detailed history of a site, long abandoned in mystery, the Pleasant and Triangle Streets.

"The PROPERTY OWNERS who still live on the site all report that they have never been contacted by the trust about the Kendrick plan for their homes and property.

Mary and Helen Dudley, 54, and Elizabeth Irwin, owners of 275 North Pleasant St., say they are the longest remaining tenants on the "island."

"My mother bought this house in 1983," says Mary Dudley, "and we have now have it in town."

Torrey says he thinks Bischoff's idea of uncorking Tan Brook to create a canal will be a more interesting park than we have now in town."

Torrey says he thinks Bischoff's idea of uncorking Tan Brook to create a canal will be the best solution for the traffic right now, just don't know."

No added that a meeting next week with traffic consultants for the town was planned, and the three areas of the "island" would come under discussion.

SEVERAL PROPOSALS for resolute traffic in the area have already been studied by the planning board and Town

Contractor, effective yesterday.

The Michael J. Garvey Memorial Prize went to Roger Boucher. Class Prizes were Michael Abramson and Dana Tudron. The Eliza Trundt McKenna Memorial Award was presented to Donna Tudron and Glenn Stawell.

Other awards and scholarships were: Arthur L. Swift Chemistry Award to Robert Progelsoe; Felman Maths Club Scholarship Award to Katherine Clark; Miriam Morse Show Memorial Prize to Evan Foster; Leavert P.T.O. Ruth Watson Scholarship to Lynda Grazier; Yale University Professor John E. Amherst Kiwanis Scholarships to Stilitz.

The swimming pool at the area opened Saturday at 1 p.m. Formal dedication ceremonies have been set for June 16 at 2 p.m.

The opening of the area was in some doubt a few weeks ago because the town had not applied for a special sewer enclosures permit from the State Division of Water Pollution Control.

A special 90-day sewer permit was issued by the Division two weeks ago.

(continued on page 3)

intention of the open meeting law, if any municipal officer wished to use this right to discuss local affairs rather than bringing them before an open meeting, this is not believed to have occurred in Amherst.

Opening the packet, salient points explained, was in the "spirit of the open meeting law," to encourage citizen participation by citizens in Amherst affairs. Had the question arisen this summer instead of last, it might have been settled for the board by CH. 1050, THE CONTROVERSIAL "TOWN Crier Case," decided by Supreme Judicial Court Judge Joseph Tauro in the spring of 1972, severely limited access to documents held by municipal officers. Even records previously presumed to be public were declared not to be.

In handing down his decision, Tauro wrote, "...while the Legislature has liberalized access to governmental records since the enactment of the first statute defining 'public records,' it has at no time broadened the statutory definition to cover, in effect, all records relevant to public officials.... Any further extension of the definition to additional classes of government records is clearly a legislative function."

"I wish I could say this bill was a vindication in court," the "Town Crier" case's Bostinger said, "but it wasn't." His first attempt to get familiar legislation passed was already far from fruition when the case was before Tauro.

Robert Hathaway of the Mass. League of Cities and Towns, like Bostinger, objects that some "gray areas" may wind up in court. "I think it's inevitable," Hathaway said.

He commanded that he believes the intent of the legislation was good, and that he expected most municipalities across the state would comply voluntarily.

"I am concerned," he added, "that

(Continued from page 1)

Ernest M. Whitcomb, 52, of 76 Lincoln Ave., founded the Amherst Boy's Club in 1926. Many people in town have speculated that it was he who was donating the Kendrick Park to the town.

One of the reasons speculation grew was that Whitcomb was named an original trustee of the Kendrick fund.

Thomas Quatres of the trust department at the First National said Thursday, "So far as I know, everyone who owns property on the Island" has been contacted by the trust, and they have expressed the feeling that they want everything to remain as it is for the time being."

Quatres added that "it's no secret that

the trust is a willing buyer of any property that remains outside of its ownership."

closed." As an example, he said, no question of whether written communications on labor negotiations could be kept confidential.

The law lists as an exemption "inter-agency or intra-agency memoranda or letters relating to policy positions being developed by the agency..." but it would be up to those involved to prove that labor negotiations could be defined as "policy positions".

Laws opening all public business to full scrutiny have gone to absolute extremes, Hathaway claimed. His mentioned one state which had declared any meeting between two or more officials to be a public meeting. "It so happens that in one family, both husband and wife are elected officials. I don't think anyone has come up with a solution to that one yet."

• Kendrick Park

IT PAY THEIR



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